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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/668,421	09/22/2000	Mohan Ananda	81045.913D3	2663

22804 7590 02/26/2003

THE HECKER LAW GROUP  
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EXAMINER

SHERR, CRISTINA O

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3621

DATE MAILED: 02/26/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

8K

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	09/668,421	ANANDA, MOHAN	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Cristina O Sherr	3621	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 November 2002.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 198-240 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 200 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 198, 199 and 201-227 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 228 - 240 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120**

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____  |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)         | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

1. This Office Action is in response to Applicant's Amendment filed 31 October 2002. Claims 1 – 197 and 200 have been canceled. Claims 198, 199, 201-208, 210, 212, 213, 216, 217, 218, 22-227, 230-232 have been amended. Claims 198, 199 and 201- 240 remain pending in this case.

***Response to Arguments***

2. Applicant's arguments filed 31 October 2002 and expressed during telephone interview on 23 January 2003 have been carefully considered.

3. Applicant correctly argues that, since this application is a continuation-in-part of application Serial no. 08/482,398, filed 19 December 1993 (now U.S. Patent 5,495,411), that the subject matter claimed in independent claims 198 and 216 predates both Cordery (filed 19 December 1995) and Kara (filed 2 October 1996). Based on the additional prior art located to date and made of record, independent claims 198 and 216 do not appear to be taught or rendered obvious, and are indicated as allowable subject matter. Dependant claims 199, 201 – 215 and 217 – 227, would also, therefore be indicated as allowable subject matter.

4. With respect to claims 228 – 240, applicant argues that neither Cordery nor Kara describe the step of assigning postal security device data to the requesting user, wherein the postal security device data may be executed on any of the plurality of cryptographic devices. Examiner respectfully disagrees and directs Applicant's attention to Cordery col 6 ln 24-29.

*Claim Rejections - 35 U.S. C. § 103*

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 228 - 240 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cordery et al. (US PAT. 6,151,590) in view of Kara (US PAT. 5, 822,739) .

7. **Re claims 228-240:** The claimed method would have been obvious. Cordery in view of Kara including the step of printing an image (e.g., FIG. 7 of Cordery) except for the use of a plurality of cryptographic devices. However, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to employ any number of servers or cryptographic devices as desired, since it has been held that mere duplication of the essential working parts of a device involves only routine skill in the art. *St. Regis Paper Co. v. Bemis Co.*, 193 USPQ 8.

***Indication of Allowable Subject Matter***

8. Subject to rejections listed above, and based on the prior art located to date and made of record, Claims 198, 199, and 201-227 do not appear to be taught or rendered obvious, and are indicated as allowable subject matter.

9. Claims 198, 199 and 201-227 are allowed.

***Conclusion***

**10. THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

11. A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

12. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cristina O Sherr whose telephone number is 703-305-0625. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 8:30 to 5:00.

13. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Trammell can be reached on 703-305-9768. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-305-7687 for regular communications and 703-305-7687 for After Final communications.

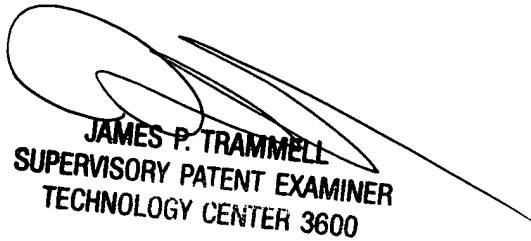
14. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

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Art Unit: 3621

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February 24, 2003



JAMES P. TRAMMELL  
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